

VEHICLE WHEEL CONSTRUCTION PROCESS
CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a division of co-pending U.S. Patent Application 09/184,190, which was filed on November 2, 1998.

FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT

Not applicable.

REFERENCE TO A MICROFICHE APPENDIX

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to composite wheel assemblies for vehicles having an overlay permanently attached to a wheel disc with a combination of adhesives and, particularly, to an improved apparatus and process for permanently attaching an ornamental overlay to the wheel using nests to locate and support the overlay to the wheel creating a mold into which foam can be injected.

Description of the Related Art

Decorative overlays are widely used to enhance the aesthetic appearance of automotive wheels. Overlays are not only employed to improve the appearance of unadorned standard steel wheels, but are also used with cast aluminum wheels, that are known to be expensive and difficult to plate with chromium. Numerous structural combinations of overlays with chrome-plated outboard surfaces have attracted great interest from vehicle manufacturers, because they are lightweight, aesthetically pleasing and offer designers complete flexibility with regard to the aesthetic effect that can be

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